

## **REMARKS**

### **REVIEW**

The original application set forth claims 1-35 of which claims 1, 16, and 25 were independent claims. The presently amended application sets forth claims 1-35 of which claims 1, 16, and 25 are independent claims. Original claims 33-35 have been amended. As of the date of mailing of this Preliminary Amendment, no first Office Action has been received by Applicant to indicate if any claims are allowable in view of the prior art.

### **DRAWINGS**

A replacement sheet and a redlined drawing of Figure 2 are respectfully submitted to correct an inadvertent error regarding the direction of material flow through the ultrasonic reactor. Instead of flowing into the reactor from the top (through inlet #44) and out the bottom (through outlet #56), the flow is reversed and comes into the reaction chamber from the bottom and proceeds out the top. The amended drawing merely reverses the included arrows intended to indicate the flow direction of the material within the reactor. A correction to the written description has also been made to ensure the continuity of the present application.

### **CITED RELEVANT PRIOR ART**

It is not believed that any of the prior art cited by Applicant, alone or in combination either with each other or other prior art teaches, discloses, suggests or makes obvious the claimed features of the present invention.

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing amendments and comments, Applicants respectfully request admission of the present Preliminary Amendment and expresses his earnest belief that the claims are now in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests the issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at his convenience should only minor issues remain after consideration of this Preliminary Amendment in order to permit early resolution of the same.

Respectfully submitted,

7/22/04  
Date

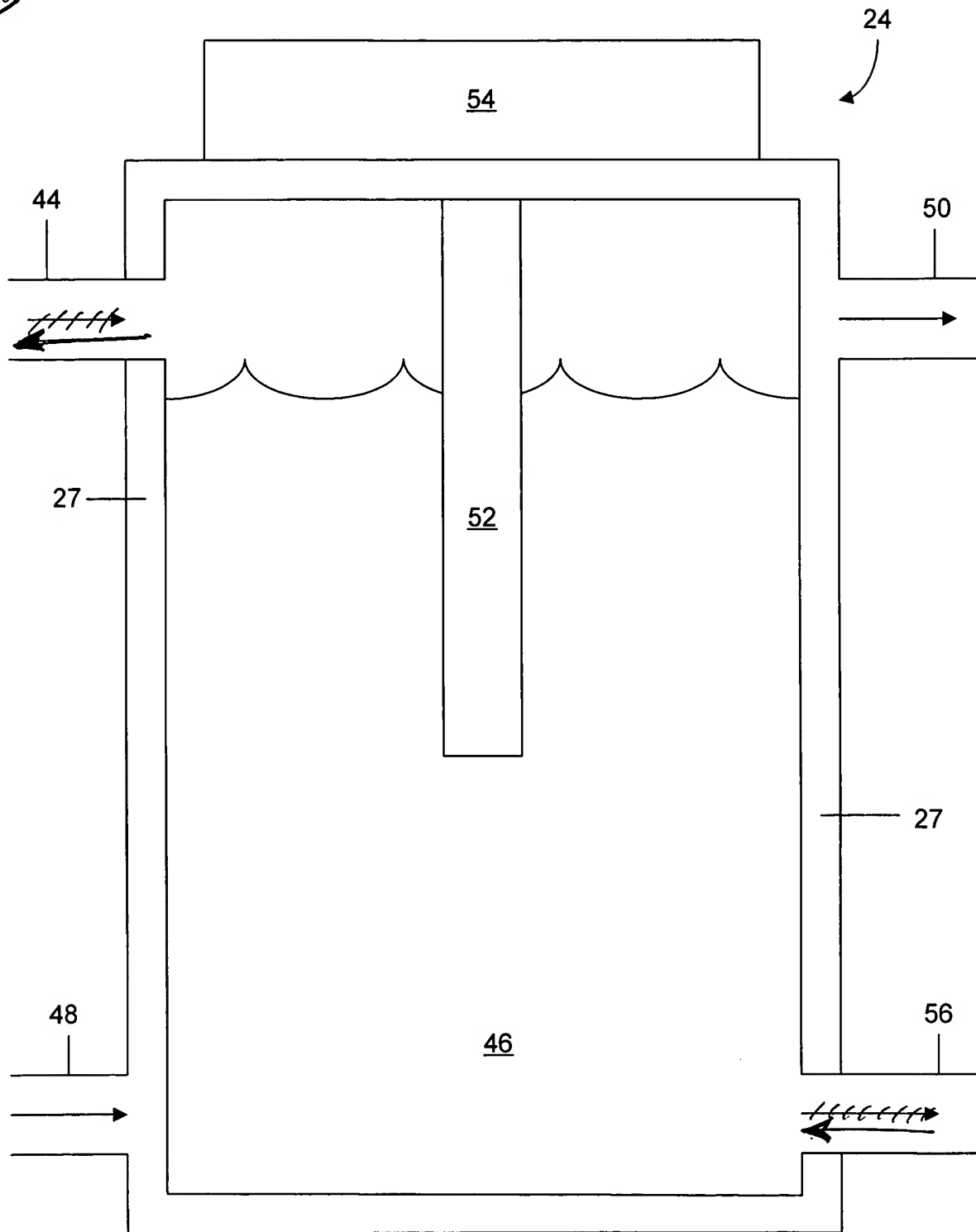
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<p align="center"><b>Certificate of Mailing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8</b></p> <p>I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope address to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on July 22, 2004.</p> <p align="center"><u>Charles R Ducker, Jr.</u> Signature</p> <p align="center"><u>Charles R. Ducker, Jr.</u> Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate</p>
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RED-LINE VERSION



**FIGURE 2**